

RQ-2

April 13, 2016

TYLER CLARK, TREASURER
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ARKANSAS
1300 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201

Response Due Date 05/18/2016

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00024372

REFERENCE: YEAR-END REPORT (12/01/2015 - 12/31/2015)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action. Additional information is needed for the following 3 item(s):

1. Schedule A (see attached) discloses a contribution(s) from an individual(s) who has a mailing address outside of the United States of America. Please be advised that 52 U.S.C. §30121(a) (formerly 2 U.S.C. §441e(a)) and 11 CFR §110.20 prohibit foreign nationals from making contributions in connection with any election for political office or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for any political office.

If the apparently prohibited contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If your committee follows the safe harbor guidelines outlined under 11 CFR §110.20(a)(7) for all contributions received from a foreign address to ensure that the sources of these contributions are not foreign nationals, please provide a detailed description of your procedures. These procedures must be used in all cases where a contributor or donor uses a foreign passport or passport number for identification purposes, provides a foreign address, makes a contribution or donation by means of a check or other written instrument drawn on a foreign bank or by wire transfer from a foreign bank, or resides abroad. A committee is deemed to have conducted a reasonable inquiry into the contributor or donor's nationality if you seek and obtain copies of current and valid U.S. passport papers for U.S. citizens. No person may rely on this safe harbor if he or she has

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actual knowledge that the source of the funds solicited, accepted, or received is a foreign national.

If you have received a contribution from a foreign national, you must refund the impermissible contribution to the donor in accordance with 11 CFR §103.3(b). Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for the refund. In addition, any refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 28 (a) of the report during which the transaction was made.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of a prohibited contribution(s), prompt action on your part to refund or provide clarifying information concerning these contributions will be taken into consideration.

- 2. Schedule A, supporting Line 11(a)(i) of your report discloses memo entries, totaling \$5,895.70 from individuals, that appear to be received through joint fundraising efforts. However, "AR Party Victory Fund" is not disclosed as a joint fundraising representative on your Statement of Organization. Please amend your Statement of Organization to disclose the joint fundraising representative or amend your report to provide clarifying information. (11 CFR §102.2)
- 3. Your November Monthly (10/1/15 10/31/15), December Monthly (11/1/15 11/30/15), and Year End (12/1/15 12/31/15) Reports combined, disclose limited payments for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are payments made for the purpose of operating a political committee including, but not limited to, rent, utilities, salaries, telephone service, office equipment and supplies. Each state, district or local party committee utilizing separate federal and non federal accounts is required to allocate any administrative expenses (excluding salary) between the accounts according to a fixed percentage selected on Schedule H1. A Schedule H1 must be filed with the first FEC FORM 3X filed at the beginning of each calendar year. Payments for salary and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time on Federal election activities or on activities in connection with a Federal election must be made from a federal account and disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 30(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. (11 CFR §106.7)

Any goods or services provided to your committee by a person, except volunteer activity (i.e., a person's time), would be considered an in kind

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contribution from that person, and would be subject to the disclosure requirements of 52 U.S.C. §30104 (formerly 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3)) and 11 CFR §104.13, and the limitations and prohibitions of 52 U.S.C. §\$30116 and 30118 (formerly 2 U.S.C. §\$441a and 441b). Payments to a consulting, law or accounting firm will be considered acceptable for salary.

Clarification regarding administrative expenses should be provided during each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non election year. Please provide the necessary information regarding administrative expenses incurred by your committee and/or amend your report to disclose such expenses according to the referenced provisions of the Act and Commission Regulations.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1393.

Sincerely,

Paul Stoetzer

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

Pol R. St.

## Impermissible, Excessive, and Prohibited Contributions Democratic Party of Arkansas (C00024372)

## **Contributions from Possible Foreign Nationals**

Contributor Name	Date	Amount	Report
Maria Kellner	12/2/15	\$2,081.25	2015 Year End
Peter Kellner	12/2/15	\$2,081.25	2015 Year End